



NH State Advisory Committee on the Education of Children/Students with Disabilities Meeting Minutes

NH SAC Meeting Minutes

DATE	November 1, 2023	START TIME	5:00 PM
PHYSICAL LOCATION	Granite State College, 25 Hall Street, Concord, NH 03301 Map		
MINUTES PREPARED BY:	Tracy Walbridge		

ATTENDANCE

In Person	Virtual	Absent
Rep. Peggy Balboni	Dale Boyle	Elizabeth Cannon
Jennifer Blagriff (arrived 5:10 PM)	Rep. Katelyn Kuttab (left 6:10 PM)	William Caruso
Kara Buxton	Katherine Shea (virtual (arrived 5:10 PM)	Joseph Costanzo
Holly Carman	Karen Rosenberg (left 6:19 PM)	Christina Dotson
Carin Daddino-Rogers	Moir Ryan (arrived 5:48, left 6:18 PM)	Alyson Eberhardt
Melissa Gray		Rebecca Fredette
Kari Grimes		Darlene Gildersleeve
Michelle Lewis		Marion Hanson
Gregory Magoon		Alicia Houston
Jennifer Pike (arrived 5:10 PM)		Esther Kennedy
Janet Reed		Melissa McKeon
Moir Ryan (arrived at 6:18 PM)		Christopher O'Reilly
Joy Sabolevski		Lance Paquette
Karen Stokes		Erica-Lee Peaslee
Kathleen Talbot		Leah Lucier-Pike
Tracy Walbridge		
(15) 16	(5) 4	15

Remote Participation (NH HB 308: *Relative to a quorum for meetings open to the public to include remote presence*)

- Dale Boyle, illness, no additional people present
- Rep. Katelyn Kuttab, childcare reasons, children were present.
- Katherine Shea, childcare reasons, accommodations, no additional people present
- Karen Rosenberg, illness, no additional people present
- Moira Ryan, traveling to the SAC meeting to attend in person; no additional people present



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1 Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM
15 members present, 4 virtual – Quorum has been met

2 Approval of Minutes

- Carin Daddino-Rogers motioned to approve the October 4th, 2023, meeting minutes. Kari Grimes seconded the motion.
- The committee acknowledged the need for corrections to the minutes. However, it is important to note that the motion did not pass.
 - Corrections for October 2023 Meeting Minutes – documentation for reason for remote participation as outlined in HB 308:
 - Rep. Katelyn Kuttub (arrived at 5:07 PM) childcare reasons, children were present
 - Jennifer Pike (arrived at 6:08 PM) driving to the meeting, son in the car
 - Katherine Shea (virtual arrived 5:10 PM) childcare reasons, accommodations
 - Kathleen Talbot, personal reasons

3 Subcommittee Updates

Reading Subcommittee (Alyson Eberhardt, Chair)

- No meeting was held

Family Engagement Subcommittee (Tracy Walbridge, Chair)

- No meeting was held

Due Process Subcommittee (Moiria Ryan, Chair)

- No meeting was held

Bylaws Subcommittee (Holly Carman, Chair)

- No meeting was held
- With the SAC Audit in motion and where the Bylaws may shift due to findings, the draft for the revisions may go on hold until we fully understand the corrective action plan.

4 Public Comment

The SAC Chair offered a public comment period for any member of the public present.
No members of the public were present for comment.

The SAC had student Oel Leo, from the Stratham school system, join the meeting to observe and learn more about this committee. No questions or comments.

5 New Business

HB 308 Update:

- The committee discussed HB 308, relative to a quorum for meetings open to the public to include remote presence, which was created as a separate statute under NH RSA 91a:2(IV). The bill outlined the following key points:
- Under the existing statute (3) and the new statute (4):
 - The body may but is not required to allow one or more members to participate remotely when attendance is not reasonably practical.



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- The reason for remote attendance must be stated in the meeting minutes.
- All votes must be roll call, and the person participating remotely must identify their presence and location.
- The key difference between statutes (3) and (4) is as follows:
 - a. Under statute (3), a quorum, defined as 50% or more, must be physically present, and members must be able to hear each other simultaneously.
 - b. Under statute (4), at least one-third must be physically present, and members must be able to see and hear each other during the meeting. Public members must also be able to participate remotely in the same way as other members.
- HB 308 is an enabling statute, not a mandate, and the body has the discretion to vote on whether to allow it.

Representative Kuttub recommended adopting a policy that allows for the one-third quorum requirement, as the NHSAC has faced challenges in meeting the one-half quorum in person. This policy would ensure that the meeting complies with the stricter requirements of the statute, making it easier for the committee to follow the rules consistently.

Holly Carman suggested that the bylaw subcommittee consider incorporating this policy into the bylaws when they are reviewed.

Chair Stokes clarified that there are two ways to interpret the law: one that suggests if 51% are present in person, the law does not apply, and another that states if only one-third is present in person and online participants make up the remaining percentage, the statute must be followed. Representative Kuttub recommended following the statute regardless of the percentage of in-person attendance, as it would ensure consistent compliance with the stricter requirements. She emphasized that it was a recommendation, not a mandate.

Referral to Bylaws Subcommittee

Carman, the Chair of the Bylaws Subcommittee, recommended referring the matter to the Subcommittee for a detailed review instead of an immediate vote. The goal is to ensure alignment with current bylaws and their ongoing revision.

Holly emphasized the need for a cohesive approach, as past piecemeal changes had confused. She mentioned waiting for an audit report. Representative Kuttub recommended temporarily adopting a policy while giving time for bylaws update to avoid being unable to make decisions.

A group discussion on HB 308, there was no consensus reached.

HB 147: Relative to membership of the advisory committee on the education of students with disabilities.

- Representative Peggy Balboni shared that an amendment was submitted included having the parent majority; some changes were two members of the House with one member from the House Education Committee, 1 Senator, 1 State from NHED, 1 Medical Provider, Chairperson, vice chair, and clerk, support from NHED; administrative, technical and organization support. House Education will be revisited to consolidate numbers. November 13th is the next hearing for the House Education recommendations for the house floor.
- Discussion on Audit Impact and Committee Functionality
 - The committee discussed the potential impact of the ongoing audit and how it might affect the committee's ability to function effectively. Representative Peggy Balboni recommended that members email Chair Stokes with their (personal) recommendations. Stokes could then compile and forward the received suggestions to Representative Balboni for further consideration or send them to the full House Education committee.

Open discussion on subcommittees.



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- Carin would like to keep the reading subcommittee. This committee would like to focus on learning disabilities, with a subcommittee name change to include learning disabilities.
- Jennifer Pike would like to see a Homeless Subcommittee.
- Family Engagement: Chair Stokes suggested working with other SAC members to bring awareness to parent recruitment and awareness of SAC and its purpose.
- Bylaws will meet when it's needed.
- Due Process Chair Moira Ryan met a few months ago; the 4:30 - 5 pm needs more time for subcommittees to meet. Chair Stokes suggested meeting more often than not.

**Reminder to connect with Mary Ellen Hamilton at NHED to secure a meeting room and provide a virtual meeting link for the public.*

- To establish a subcommittee, it's essential to have interested members willing to work towards addressing the unmet needs of students. Janet Reed suggested that interested members sign up to join the subcommittee and work towards clearly defining their goals and objectives. This proactive approach can help ensure the subcommittee's effectiveness in addressing the identified needs.

NHSAC Membership

- Regarding the upcoming reappointment process for our committee, it's important to note that 19 members have terms expiring on January 14, 2024. The November agenda outlines the steps for those interested in seeking reappointment.
- Reappointment details: If you have submitted your information to the Governor's office, you will still be considered a member unless you receive a letter expressing gratitude for your service on the committee.

6 Old Business

2023 Annual Report

- In preparation for our 2022- 2023 Annual Report, Jennifer Blagriff has provided the draft to the entire committee. All members are kindly requested to review the document, which will be up for voting next month.
- Holly Carman will resend the annual report draft to all committee members to facilitate the review process.

7 Legislative Update

- Representative Balboni did not see any retained bill related to students with disabilities. This upcoming session has 708 bills filed, with 106 related to education, children, and family law.
- Jennifer Blagriif, HB 437, relative to a reading assessment and intervention program, is related to dyslexia and reading for all children. Jennifer is in support of this bill as a parent. This bill differs from the new law in place and does not impact local control.
- Moira motioned to write a letter to "Support HB 437's section relating to a universal screener at a rate of three times a year, paid for by the state of NH." Jennifer Blagriiff seconded.

Roll Call Vote "The SAC Recommends and Supports HB 437"

SAC Member	Vote	SAC Member	Vote
Rep. Peggy Balboni	ABST	Rep. Katelyn Kuttab	(left prior to this vote)
Jennifer Blagriff	Y	Michelle Lewis	ABST
Dale Boyle	(was not present at rollcall)	Leah Lucier-Pike	
Kara Buxton	ABST	Gregory Magoon	ABST
Elizabeth Cannon		Melissa McKeon	



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Holly Carman	ABST	Christopher O'Reilly	
William Caruso		Lance Paquette	
Joseph Costanzo		Erica-Lee Peaslee	
Carin Daddino-Rogers	ABST	Jennifer Pike	Y
Christina Dotson		Janet Reed	ABST
Alyson Eberhardt		Karen Rosenberg	(left prior to this vote)
Rebecca Fredette		Moir Ryan	Y
Darlene Gildersleeve		Joy Sabolevski	ABST
Melissa Gray	ABST	Katherine Shea	(left prior to this vote)
Kari Grimes	ABST	Karen Stokes	N
Marion Hanson		Kathleen Talbot	ABST
Alicia Houston		Tracy Walbridge	Y
Esther Kennedy			

Motion Result: The motion passes with 3 "Yes" votes, 1 "No" votes, and 11 "Abstain" votes.

A conversation with the SAC ensued to clarify that the members who voted to abstain truly understood their vote.
Another motion was put forward to reconsider the vote for HB 147 (creating a new vote).

Roll Call Vote to reconsider the previous vote on HB 437

SAC Member	Vote	SAC Member	Vote
Rep. Peggy Balboni	Y	Rep. Katelyn Kuttub	(left prior to this vote)
Jennifer Blagriff	Y	Michelle Lewis	Y
Dale Boyle	Y	Leah Lucier-Pike	
Kara Buxton	Y	Gregory Magoon	Y
Elizabeth Cannon		Melissa McKeon	
Holly Carman	Y	Christopher O'Reilly	
William Caruso		Lance Paquette	
Joseph Costanzo		Erica-Lee Peaslee	
Carin Daddino-Rogers	Y	Jennifer Pike	N
Christina Dotson		Janet Reed	Y
Alyson Eberhardt		Karen Rosenberg	(left prior to this vote)
Rebecca Fredette		Moir Ryan	N
Darlene Gildersleeve		Joy Sabolevski	Y
Melissa Gray	Y	Katherine Shea	Y
Kari Grimes	Y	Karen Stokes	Y
Marion Hanson		Kathleen Talbot	Y
Alicia Houston		Tracy Walbridge	Y



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Esther Kennedy

Motion Result: The motion **passes** with 16 "Yes" votes, 2 "No" votes, and 0 "Abstain" votes.

Conversation returned to the Bill language and Jennifer Blagriff read Sections I and II of HB 437 for consideration.

SAC Conducted an additional roll call vote specific to "Support HB 437's section relating to a universal screener at a rate of three times a year, paid for by the state of NH."

Roll Call Vote: "Support HB 437's section relating to a universal screener at a rate of three times a year, paid for by the state of NH."

SAC Member	Vote	SAC Member	Vote
Rep. Peggy Balboni	ABST	Rep. Katelyn Kuttub	(left prior to this vote)
Jennifer Blagriff	Y	Michelle Lewis	N
Dale Boyle	ABST	Leah Lucier-Pike	
Kara Buxton	N	Gregory Magoon	ABST
Elizabeth Cannon		Melissa McKeon	
Holly Carman	N	Christopher O'Reilly	
William Caruso		Lance Paquette	
Joseph Costanzo		Erica-Lee Peaslee	
Carin Daddino-Rogers	Y	Jennifer Pike	Y
Christina Dotson	Y	Janet Reed	N
Alyson Eberhardt		Karen Rosenberg	(left prior to this vote)
Rebecca Fredette		Moirra Ryan	Y
Darlene Gildersleeve		Joy Sabolevski	ABST
Melissa Gray	N	Katherine Shea	Y
Kari Grimes	Y	Karen Stokes	Y
Marion Hanson		Kathleen Talbot	N
Alicia Houston		Tracy Walbridge	Y
Esther Kennedy			

Motion Result: The motion **passes** with a vote of 8 Yes, 6 No, 4 Abstain

- A SAC Special Meeting was scheduled for November 8, 2023, at 5:00 PM to review the letter of support to be produced by Jennifer Blagriff and Moira Ryan and vote on sending this letter of support to the House Committee on Education.

- The Ed 306 Minimum Standards for Public School Approval are currently under revision in accordance with the NH State Board of Education's 10-year review cycle. The SAC should contact the NHED to obtain a copy of the revised Ed 306 rules.
 - A suggestion has been made to establish a 306 Rules subcommittee to explore the details of these revisions. Additionally, it's recommended to invite Dr. Nate Greene to present to the SAC on this



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matter, providing valuable insights and expertise on the updated standards.

306 Proposed Rule Changes: <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/side-by-side-minimum-standards-revision-draft-3-23.pdf>

8 Data Collection and Shared Information

- Chair Stokes discussed with Michelle Lewis (PIC) and intends to contact other committee members to provide presentations about their respective organizations and IDEA-assigned seat titles regarding unmet needs.
 - Michelle Lewis is scheduled to present in January.
 - In December, NHED Rebecca Fredette will deliver a presentation.

9 Public Comment

The SAC Chair offered a public comment period for any member of the public present.
No members of the public were present for comment.

10 Motion to Adjourn

Janet Reed motioned to adjourn the meeting. Joy Sabolevski seconded.
Roll call vote to adjourn – Meeting ended at 7:01 PM

Roll Call Vote Adjourn the September SAC meeting

SAC Member	Vote	SAC Member	Vote
Rep. Peggy Balboni	Y	Rep. Katelyn Kuttab	(left prior to this vote)
Jennifer Blagriff	Y	Michelle Lewis	Y
Dale Boyle	Y	Leah Lucier-Pike	
Kara Buxton	Y	Gregory Magoon	Y
Elizabeth Cannon		Melissa McKeon	
Holly Carman	Y	Christopher O'Reilly	
William Caruso		Lance Paquette	
Joseph Costanzo		Erica-Lee Peaslee	
Carin Daddino-Rogers	Y	Jennifer Pike	Y
Christina Dotson	Y	Janet Reed	Y
Alyson Eberhardt		Karen Rosenberg	(left prior to this vote)
Rebecca Fredette		Moiria Ryan	Y
Darlene Gildersleeve		Joy Sabolevski	ABST
Melissa Gray	Y	Katherine Shea	(left prior to this vote)
Kari Grimes	Y	Karen Stokes	Y
Marion Hanson		Kathleen Talbot	N
Alicia Houston		Tracy Walbridge	Y
Esther Kennedy			

Motion Result: The November 1, 2023, meeting was adjourned at 7:01 PM by consensus.